Curiosity.

Several Choice

PROPHECYES

Of the Incomparable and Famous

Dr Martin Luther,

AS ALSO,

The Remarkable Prophecy of the Learned and Reverend

Dr Musculus.

Collected by R. C. *M. A.*

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BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

The Prophecies of Martin Luther, *concerning the Down-fall of the Pope of* Rome, *and of the* Germane Empire, *that will be over-run with the Armies of the* Turks; *together with the Reaſons that he giveth for it*, &c.

THe Name of *Martin Luther* is ſo Famous throughout all *Europe*, that he cannot be unknown either to the Papiſt, or the Proteſtant, having deeply obliged the One, by oppoſing the Errours, and the Falſe-hoods of the other; Indeed, there were ſome others before Him that did write againſt the Corruptions of the Church of *Rome*; As *John Hus*, *Jerome* of *Prague*, who were the Firſt Fruits of the Reformation, and were both Honoured with the Crowns of *Martyrdome*; *Martin Luther*, as he came after them, ſo having a higher Spirit to imbolden him, and a more Powerfull Number of Friends to aſſiſt him, did give a greater blow to the Church of *Rome*; and fulfilled his own Prophecy, which

was,

Pa.

was, *That the longer Popery continued, the more it ſhould be every day contemned*: The Prophecies of this great Reformer of the Church were Remarkable, foretelling the Ruine of the Pope of *Rome*, and of the *German* Empire, which ſhould be brought unto Confuſion by the Formidable Powers of the *Turk*: But before I repreſent unto you the Prophecies of *Martin Luther*, it will not be amiſſe to give you a ſhort View of his Life, and of the Prophecies of others concerning him; that ſo by reading of their Prophecies in Relation to himſelf; His own Prophecies concerning the Downfall of the Pope of *Rome*, and of the *German* Empire may gaine the greater Confirmation.

See *Luther Colloquia Commo alia*, page 537.

In the firſt place, I ſhall give you the True Preſage of *John Hilton*, who was himſelf a Friar by Profeſſion; He Prophecied, that much about the Year, one thouſand five hundred and ſixteen (which was at the ſame time when *Luther* began to Declare himſelf againſt the Church of *Rome*) the Myſtery of Ungodlineſs would begin to be Diſcovered, and the Son of Righteouſneſs ſhine forth in the Truth of the Goſpel, and that Popery would at that time finde in *Germany* and in other parts of *Chriſtendome* a general Declenſion; which Prophecy was by *Martin Luther*, who flouriſhed in thoſe times moſt undoubtedly fulfilled.

But the Teſtimony of *John Hus*, who being condemned to ſuffer the Flames of Martyrdom at *Conſtance*, is moſt remarkable; It was almoſt one hundred years, before that *Luther* did openly profeſſe himſelf an Enemy, to the Errours and Idolatry of the Church of *Rome*; *John Hus* being brought unto the Stake, expreſſed himſelf in theſe words. *This day*, ſaid he, *you do roſt a Gooſe*, (for ſo the word *Hus* ſignifies in the *German* Tongue) *but one hundred years hence, you ſhall hear a Swan to Warble, whom you ſhall not be able to roſt nor overcome*; and this at the end of the Time preſcribed was effectually made good, for then *Martin Luthers* voice was effectually heard, who Preached ſo powerfully with his Tongue, and wrote ſo ſharply with his Pen, as not any one before him, ſince the time of the Apoſtles, did the like; and notwithſtanding all the Fury and Violence of the Papiſts,

Luthers Coloquia, page 534.

The Belief of the Church of *Rome*, 203.

who

who with elabourate Malice endeavoured to ſuppreſſe him, he continued Preaching and Writing againſt them many years afterwards, and departed this Life in Peace to the Praiſe of God, and the great Shame and Deriſion of the Pope and his Accomplices: We may inſtance many other Propheſyes of the like Nature, which we purpoſely forbear, being to contract much into a little Volume.

Of the Parentage, and Life of Luther.

Martin Luther was the Son of a Farmer, he was born at *Iſleben*, in the County of *Mansfield*, in the year one thouſand foure hundred and eighty three, on the 10*th* day of *November*: His Father, his Grand Father, and his Great Grand-Father (as he ſaith himſelf) were Farmers; His Father abandoning his Farme upon ſome diſcontents, and finding ſome Profitable Imployments at *Mansfield*, he addreſſed himſelf to that place, where he was one of the Miners in the Silver Mines; In the mean time *Luther* had his Education in the ſame Town where he was born, and being fitted for the Univerſity at *Erfurd*, he took there the Degrees of Bachellour, and Maſter of Arts, and in a ſhort proceſſe of time, he took upon him the Habit and Formality of a Friar, at which his Father was much diſpleaſed; But it pleaſed God by this means to make uſe of him for the over-throwing of the Power of Antichriſt; *Luther* having found how directly oppoſite the Supremacy of the Pope was to the Doctrine of the primitive times, there grew on it the firſt contention, which being bandyed up and down with Animoſity, it gave *Luther* the occaſion more ſtrictly to examine ſome other Corruptions in the Church of *Rome*, which he did with ſo much vigour, that Pope *Gregory* the 13*th*, underſtanding what great hurt and prejudice he received from it, and fearing it might bring a further Contempt upon him, he did exaſperate *Rodolphus* the ſecond, at that time Emperour of *Rome*, to publiſh an Edict throughout the Empire, that all the Books of *Martin Luther* ſhould be burned, and that it ſhould be Death for any man to keep them in his Houſe, which Edict was not onely ſuddainly put in Execution by

himſelf, but it was continued alſo by *Ferdinand* the ſecond, who was a ſevere Enemy, and a Perſecutor of the Proteſtant Religion.

Luther, long before this had Eſpouſed a Virgin, whoſe Name was *Katherine Bora*, ſhe had ſometimes entred her ſelf into a Cloyſter of the Nuns, but diſliking many abuſes ſhe found therein, before her year of Probation was expired ſhe relinquiſhed it.

This gave an occaſion to the Monks and Friars to exclaime againſt *Luther* as having broken the Vow of Chaſtity; but *Luther* had abandoned the Office of a Friar before; nevertheleſſe he thus far declared himſelf, *That a Preacher of the Goſpel being orderly called thereunto, ought above all things to purify himſelf before he teacheth others, and if he be able with a good Conſcience to live unmarried, it is his ſafeſt courſe to continue ſo, but in caſe he cannot abſtain, and live chaſtly, he is then to marry, and to take a wife, for God hath provided ſuch a Remedy for that Infirmity*; I could here inſert *Luther*'s own Prayer before his Marriage, and the Reaſon why he took a Wife, which was, as he himſelf ſaid to upbraid the Devil; and to confound the filthy incontinent life in Popery, which was ſo odious and abominable, that Pope *Leo* himſelf was taken out of the World at that time when he was committing Buggery with a Proſtituted Boy. I could here alſo inſert the lamentable Fruits of an unmarried Life in Prieſts and Nuns, which have been ſo notorious, that not onely in *Rome* and *Germany*, but in *England* alſo, and many other Places, there have been found in Ponds and Cellars many thouſand heads of Infants, who thus deſperately have been thrown away to preſerve the Reputation of the Chaſtity of the Nuns and Friars: But I muſt returne from whence a little I have digreſſed.

Luther's Name growing Famous in *Germany*, for the great overthrows which he gave to many of the chiefeſt Profeſſors of the Church of *Rome*, and to the Supremacy of the Pope himſelf, he was ſummoned by the Emperour to appear at the Imperial Diet at *Worms*, which when the Prince

Luther's Colloqua 445.

Vide Luth. Colloq. 452.

Prince *Elector* of *Saxony* underſtood, he did earneſtly diſſwade him from it, alleaging that he ſhould have the whole Chriſtian world againſt him; and although he was ready and willing to defend him, yet *Luther* and he being but two perſons, they were unable to oppoſe ſo great a Multitude; he there adviſed him not to undertake ſo dangerous a Journey, but to be warned by the example of *John Hus*; who although he had the Emperours Letters of ſafe Conduct to preſerve him, yet he was ſurprized there, and conſumed by fire to aſhes. *Luther* having heard the Elector to give him this councel, made anſwer to him, that he muſt confeſſe, that (as the caſe now ſtood) he was too weak to defend him; nevertheleſſe he was reſolved to go, and to defend the Elector; for although (ſaid he) there be in *Worms* as many Devils as there be Tiles on all the Houſes of the City; yet I am reſolved to go thither, and to maintain what I have done and undertaken. *Luthers Colloqu.* 433.

Many more ſuch examples may be given of his Courage, and his Confidence; at the laſt when he ſaw that by his endeavours the Goſpel began to flouriſh and to be preached not onely in *Germany* but other Countryes, and that he had reaped the comfort of his Induſtry and his Study, it pleaſed God to viſite him with ſickneſſe, at which time, giving thanks unto God who had delivered him from ſo many Deceits and Aſſaults of his Mercileſs Enemies, he compoſed theſe following Verſes in Latine.

Quæſitus toties, toties tibi Roma *petitus,*
Ille ego per Chriſtum vivo Lutherus *adhuc,*
Una mihi ſpes eſt quâ non fraudabor Jeſus,
Hunc mihi dum teneam perfida Roma *cave.*

Which are thus in Engliſh,

Behold! through Chriſt, I *Luther* yet do live,
By *Rome* ſo often ſought, but I believe
Chriſt Jeſus is my onely hope, by whom,
Whileſt I do live, take heed perfidious *Rome.*

Luthers Prophecy on his own Death

Being a little recovered, he was adviſed to take the Ayre which accordingly he did, on the ſixteenth of *February* in the year, 1546. at what time, he ſaid, when I come again to *Wittembergh*, I will be lodged in a Coffin, and will ſurrender to the Worms a fat *Luther* to feed upon, and ſo it fell out; for two days afterwards he was tranſlated from this life unto a better, and perceiving himſelf to grow fainter and draw near unto his end, he called for Pen, Inke, and Paper, and wrote this verſe following to lye as it were an Epitaph upon his own Tomb.

Peſtis eram vivens, moriens ero mors tua Papa.

Living, I was a Plague to thee,
Dying, O! Pope thy Death I'le be.

Which by *Philip Melancthon* was rendred in a Diſtich much after the ſame ſence, and manner.

Qui dum vixit erat tua peſtis (Papa) Lutherus,
Hic tibi cauſa, ſuo funere, mortis erit.

Luther who living was thy Plague, he ſhall,
Cauſe by his death, O Pope! thy utter fall.

He lived ſixty and three years, and was buried at *Iſleben* (where he was born) on the 19th. of *February* 1546. Having given you this Account of his life, we ſhall now paſſe unto his Prophecyes.

The Prophecies of Luther.

His Prophecy concerning the *Turk* page, 518.

And above all, this is moſt remarkable; The *Turk*, ſaith he, ſhall give a great Clap to *Germany*; Me thinks I ſee him Marching through and through the whole Body of the Empire; who ſo liveth one hundred years and upwards, will ſee the ſame accompliſhed, I oftentimes do contemplate thereupon, and thinking on the great miſery which will inſue upon the Empire, I do ſweat thereat; Nevertheleſſe

Germany

Germany goeth on in ſin, and refuſeth to be helped: No humane power or potentate can beat the *Turk*, but onely that Man who is named Chriſt; as for the Emperour, King *Ferdinand* and the Princes, they can accompliſh nothing.

It is obſervable, that although *Luther* had Prophecied this of the *Turk*, yet he had no good opinion of him; for there being a great Commotion at that time in *Germany* concerning Religion, the *Turk* deſired to know what manner of man *Luther* was, and of what years: when it was told him that he was a Corpulent man, and of about fifty years of age, the *Turk* replyed, I could wiſh he were younger, for he ſhall have of me a gracious Lord; which when it was brought to *Luthers* eare by the Prince *Elector* of *Saxony*, God preſerve me (ſaid *Luther*) from ſuch a gracious Lord as the Emperour of *Turkey* is, for the *Turk* is a Crafty and Subtile Enemy, who maketh War not onely with great Courage, and a Formidable Number of Souldiers, but alſo he manageth it with many Stratageme, and much Craft and Subtilty; he is alwayes beating up the Quarters of his Enemies, and by that means makes them faint and weary; he keepeth them waking with often Skirmiſhing, and ſeldome ingageth with the whole Body of his Army, unleſſe he be aſſured of the Victory; He is ready to take all advantages; His Power is great, being able in *Luthers* Time to maintain and pay yearly two hundred thouſand Souldiers, which at the leaſt amounteth to fifteen Millions of Rix Dollars.

How the *Turk* maketh War and prevaileth in it, *Luthers Colloq.* 519.

The *Turk* able to maintain a yearly Army of two hundred thouſand men, which amounteth to above 15. millions, *Luth. Col.* page, 519.

By Degrees the *Turk* ſuppreſſed the *Sarazens*, who before were Conquerours, and Lords of all, in *Syria*, *Aſia*, and *Jeruſalem*, and in the Land of *Promiſe*, and hath alſo great Dominions in *Africa* and *Greece*: Much about thirty years before *Luthers* time he utterly over-threw the whole Army of the *Sarazens*, and killed the *Soldan* in that Battel.

The *German* Princes, ſaid *Luther*, ought to be well Qualified and Armed to incounter with ſo powerfull an Enemy as the *Turks*. The Princes themſelves ought in their own Perſon to advance into the field, and not encounter the *Turk* with any inconſiderable number, for the *Turke* is an

Enemy

Enemy that ought not to be Undervalued, or Contemned; The Prophet *Daniel* ſaith, *It is given unto him to go againſt the Saints of God, Dan.* 11. And therefore his Fortunes and his Victories are ſo great: He maketh three Thrones or Seats in his Religion; In the midſt, he placeth *God* himſelf, and *Chriſt* on his left Hand, and *Mahomet* on the right; He taketh his Oath by *God* who Created Heaven and Earth; by *Mahomet* his Servant, and by the Foure ſcore and foure Prophets ſent from Heaven. I am afraid (ſaid *Luther*) it will go with *Germany* (which is one of the beſt Countries in the World) as heretofore it went with *Troy*, *Fuit Ilium & ingens Gloria Teucrorum*, ſaith the Poet; Heretofore there was a *Troy*, and great was the Glory of the *Trojans*; So heretofore there was a *Germany*, and great was the Glory of the *Germans*; but now a ſhort time will ſee it brought into ſtreights and Devaſtation.

The *Turks* Oath, *Luther*, 520.

The great Overthrows which the *Turks* ſhall give to the Forces of the Emperour, was not onely foretold by the Prophet *Daniel* (ſaid *Luther*) but alſo it was delivered in the Revelation of *St. John*; to the end that Godly and Upright Chriſtians ſhould not be affrighted at his great Power and Tyranny. *Daniel* excelleth in his Prophecies which ſhall continue to the end of the World; He moſt clearly deſcribeth the Kingdomes of Antichriſt, and the *Turk*, in the Revelation of *St. John*, Chap. 13. It is Written; *That it was given unto him to make War with the Saints, and to overcome them*; which words are expreſly ſpoken of the *Turk*, and not of the *Pope*; for the Saints overcome not by their Sanctity, but by their Patience, and in their overcoming by Faith, when their Bodies are Murdered: The Prophet *Daniel* proceedeth further, and ſaith, *It ſhall be for a Time, Times, and half a Time.* If Time ſignifieth a Year, as peradventure it may, then this Prophecy was firſt of all fulfilled in *Antiochus*, who Tyrannized three Years and an halfe, over the Nation of *Iſrael*, after which time he miſerably rotted, and moſt lamentably died in ſuch an intolerable ſtench, occaſioned by his Diſeaſe, that not any were able to indure the moſt noyſome ſavour of it, or to remain about him.

The overthrow which the *Turks* will give the Emperour foretold by the Prophet *Daniel*, page 520.

Luther.

Luther would oftentimes complain of the great negligence of the Emperour *Charles*, in giving an Advantage to the *Turk* alwayes to overcome him, and to take in one Town after another; whereas the Emperour ſhould alwaies have kept a Gallant and a Reſolute Army in the Field, or to have them in a readineſſe in their Winter Quarters to be drawn forth into the Field upon the Emergencies of any Advantage or Oppoſition, for this is the vigilant Cuſtome of the Turks in all his Enterpriſes, whoſe *Janizaries* (the moſt Reſolute and moſt Experienced of all his Souldiers, are always ready at the beat of a Drum for any Enterprize.) *Mahomet* began to Appear in the World in the Year, Six hundred and thirty, after the Incarnation of our Saviour, which is now above one thouſand years agoe.

The *Turks* (ſaith *Luther*) do ſwell as much with their Lies, as with their Victories, they acknowledge that *Iſaac* was the firſt and the True Son of the Promiſe; but when he ſhould be Sacrificed, he conveyed himſelf away from his Fathers ſight, pretending that he would go and fetch a Knife, and other Utenſils for the Sacrifice; whereupon *Iſhmael* came, and of his own Accord did offer up himſelf to be Sacrificed; upon which Account he became the Child of the Promiſe; This (ſaid *Luther*) is as groſſe a lye, as that of the Papiſts concerning the Adminiſtration, only under one kind in the Sacrament. And as *Antiochus* above mentioned, was ſtruck by God with a loathſome Diſeaſe, and killed without hands; Even ſo (ſaid *Luther*) ſhall it go with the Pope; He ſhall fall and be deſtroyed without any Blow of the Sword, or without any Hands to mannage a Sword; he ſhall Famiſh himſelf, for he hath never uſed any great or powerfull Armies whereby to Defend or Inlarge his Dominions, but hath ſubſiſted onely by Lying and Superſtition, and pretended Scripture to maintain him in his Falſhoods, as in one place, *Thou art Peter*, and in another, *Feed my Lambs*; Upon ſuch deceitful grounds he hath Increaſed, and ſo ſhall he fall again; Therefore this Prophecy in the Scriptures, *He ſhall fall without Power* belongeth properly to the Pope; For all other Potentates and Tyrants

The Pope to fall without any blow of the Sword, *Luther*, pag. 520.

proceed, with Power and Force; Nevertheleſſe this prophecy (ſaith *Luther*) in ſome manner may reflect as well upon the *Turk* as upon the Pope, for they began both of them almoſt at one time under the Emperour *Phocas*, for then *Mahomet* began to ſhow his Blaſphemous Tongue, and the Pope to Rule Spiritually; But the Popes Temporall Kingdome (ſaith *Luther*) hath ſcarce continued three hundred Years, ſince he began to Rule over Kings and Emperours.

Luthers *Admonition to the* Germans, *how they ought to make War againſt the* Turks.

Luther underſtanding that the Emperour *Charles* had ſent eighteen thouſand *Spaniards* into *Auſtria*, to defend the ſame againſt the *Turks*; He ſighed, and ſaid, *Theſe are ſtrange Deſigns, when the* Spaniards *ſhall come to defend the* Germans.

Luthers Colloq. P. 521.

The Greateſt part of the *Spaniards*, and their Neighbours Adjacent to them are *Mooraus*, Baptized Jews, that believe in nothing at all; Hereupon *Luther* wrote a Letter to the *Generaliſſimo* of the Emperours Army, at that time in *Hungaria*, diligently admoniſhing him to conſider that he had four Great Enemies to Encounter with:

The firſt, was with the Devil:
The ſecond, with the Turk:
The third, with Gods Wrath:
And the fourth, with the Sins of that Nation.

He told him that all the Kingdomes of the Earth had Fallen, and been Deſtroyed by Home-bred Diſſentions; So fell the Empires of the *Medes* and *Perſians*; So fell the Empires of the *Greeks* and *Romans*; and ſo likewiſe will it go with *Germany*, ſaid *Luther*; For the Princes of the Empire will not Agree amongſt Themſelves; And ſo at laſt will it go with the *Turk* himſelf, for the Higher he climbeth,

he

he is in the greater Danger to Fall; When his Time commeth, then it will be done in a Moment, and the Lord God will lay his Kingdome in the Aſhes.

I made mention in the Life of *Luther*, that ſome Eminent Perſons preſaged of his Birth, and what a Scourge he ſhould prove to the Licentious Diſcipline of the Church of *Rome*.

In the Year one thouſand five hundred and eleven, a Capuchin Friar (in the preſence of Doctor *Staupits*, and divers others at *Rome*) related a Dream, which on the night before he had Dreamed; which was, *That a Hermite ſhould ariſe under Pope* Leo *the tenth, and ſhould be a bitter Enemy to the Church of* Rome; Whereupon *Melanchon* ſaid, *This Hermite is* Luther, for the *Auſtine* Friars were called Hermites. When many years afterwards, I was at *Rome* (ſaid *Luther*) they ſhewed me for a precious Relique the Halter wherewith *Judas* hanged himſelf, which ought not by me (ſaid he) to be forgotten, to ſhew in what a thick darkneſſe of Ignorance our Fore-Fathers lived; *Rome* was once a Holy City, but now ſhe is the *S*pouſe of the Devil, and the Enemy of Chriſt.

Luther Diſcourſing of the Fathers of the Church; *Ambroſe* (ſaid he) was the Chiefeſt and the Eldeſt; after him *St. Jerome*; next unto him *St. Auguſtine*; and after him *Gregory* the Fourth: I have ſeen *St. Auguſtine* (ſaid *Luther*) painted in ſome Books like a Friar with a Hood, by which that Holy Man was much injured, for he lived a publique kind of life, like a Common Citizen; he uſed Silver *S*poones and Cupps; he lived in ordinary amongſt the people, and converſed with them, he lived no ſuch Monkiſh kind of life, as the Papiſts have feigned of him. The Old Fathers taught better, and with a greater power of Godlineſſe then they Wrote. After the Fathers, came the Pope, and fell in with his miſchievous Traditions, and humane Ordinances, and like a Deluge that beareth all before it, he over-flowed the Church, and inſnared the Conſciences touching the eating of Meats, and concerning Maſſes, 350.

The Abominable Innovations in Religion brought in by the Pope *Luth*. p.

Maſſes, and Friars Hoods, and Impertinent and Prophane Decrees and Laws, inſomuch that he daily induced and brought in Abominable Errours into the Church of Chriſt, and to ſerve his own turn, perverted the Holy Scripture, and either expunged many things that were Written directly againſt him in the Fathers, or elſe did interpret them to that ſence which might ſerve beſt for his own Advantage; Inſomuch, that upon theſe and ſome other Conſiderations like unto them, *Martin Luther* Compoſed a little Tract, of the birth and Generation of the Deſolation of Antichriſt, which becauſe he tooke ſome paynes in the Forming of the Extract, I have in this place inſerted it, hoping that you will receive ſome pleaſure in the Reading of it.

The Devil begat Darkneſſe; Darkneſſe begat Ignorance; Ignorance begat Errour, and his Brethren: Errour begat Free-will, and Preſumption out of Self-conceit; Free-will begat Merit; Merit begat Forgetfulneſſe of God; Forgetfulneſſe begat Tranſgreſſion; Tranſgreſſion begat Superſtition; Superſtition begat Satisfaction; Satisfaction begat the Oblation of the Maſſe; The Oblation of the Maſs, begat Unction; Unction begat the Prieſt; Unction begat Misbelief; Misbelief begat Hypocriſie; Hypocriſie begat Trading with Offerings for Gain; Trading begat Purgatory; Purgatory begat the Yearly Solemne Vigils; The Yearly Vigils begat Church-Livings; Church-Livings begat Mammon; Mammon begat Superfluity; Superfluity begat Exceſſe; Exceſſe begat Rage; Rage begat Licentiouſneſſe; Licentiouſneſſe begat Dominion; Dominion begat Pomp; Pomp begat Ambition; Ambition begat Symony; Symony begat the Pope and his Brethren; The Pope begat the Myſtery of Iniquity; the Myſtery of Iniquity begat Sophiſtical Divinity; Sophiſtical Divinity

nity begat the Rejecting of the Holy Scripture; the Rejecting of the Holy Scripture, begat Tyranny; Tyranny begat the Murdering of the Saints; the Murdering of the Saints begat the Contempt of God; the Contempt of God begat Diſpenſation; Diſpenſation begat Wilfull Sin; Wilfull Sin, begat Abomination; Abomination begat Deſolation; Deſolation begat Anguiſh; Anguiſh begat Queſtioning; Queſtioning begat the ſearching out of the Grounds of Truth; out of which the Pope, called Antichriſt, is Revealed.

Thus have you out of *Martin Luther*, in his own words, the Genealogy of the *Pope*, and by what a concatenated Race this Myſtery of Iniquity came to be Revealed; the time will come ſaith St. *Paul*, 2 *Tim.* 4. *When they will not endure ſound Doctrine, but after their own Luſts they will heap unto themſelves Teachers; having itching ears, and they ſhall turn away their ears from hearing of the Truth, and ſhall be turned into Fables.*

But amongſt all the Fables, and Idolatries in the Church of *Rome*, there is none more Remarkable then the Maſſe; *Luther* in his Tract hereof declareth, that no Tongue is able to expreſſe the Abominations of the Maſſe, neither can the Heart of man comprehend the ſame; and he ſaith it were no wonder, if that God ſhould deſtroy the World for the Maſſe-ſake, and the Abominations therein committed with Fire and Brimſtone from Heaven. *Luther Col. 330.*

When I was a young Friar (ſaith *Luther*) at *Ertfurd*, and was conſtrained to go out into the Vilages for Puddings and Cheeſes, I came to a little Town where I heard Maſſe; now when I had put on my Veſtments and my Ornaments, and made my approaches to the Altar, the Sexton of the Church began merrily to play upon the Lute, at which I could hardly forbear from Laughing, for I was unaccuſtomed to ſuch Muſick.

The *Pope* muſt fall, ſaith *Luther*, and Popery with him, for it is the Devil himſelf, and all manner of Blaſphemy to hold the final cauſe of the inſtitution of humane Traditions to be the true Service and Worſhip of God, and that it is neceſſary to Salvation; and this Aſſertion is moſt monſtrous, for ſuppoſe ſuch humane Traditions were the beſt and moſt eſteemed works of Chriſtianity, which they are not, yet to affirm that they are neceſſary to Salvation, or do give God any ſatisfaction for ſin, and that by that means they do purchaſe Grace, is to make our beſt works to be of God utterly rejected. Wherefore Chriſt ſaith, *In vain do they ſerve me, teaching ſuch Doctrines which are the Commandements of Men*; and St. *Paul* ſaith, *If either we, or any Angel from Heaven preach any other Doctrine to you then that which we have preached, let him be accurſed.*

One cauſe of the fall of the Pope and Popery. page, 328.

Antichriſt muſt fall, and it plainly and clearly appeareth, ſaith *Luther*, that the Pope is true Antichriſt; thoſe that tranſgreſſe his Decrees and Statutes, are farr more ſeverely and diligently puniſhed, then thoſe who offend the Laws and the word of God: In ſuch a ſort doth the Pope exalt himſelf over, and above God, and he is therefore moſt properly called Antichriſt, in regard that he ſitteth in the Temple, and in the Church of God, and boaſteth himſelf above all that is called God. The *Turk* is not this Antichriſt, ſaith *Luther*, for he ſitteth not in Gods Church; he is but the Battle-Axe of God, whereby he executeth his Vengeance upon the Nations, he is a wicked Beaſt; out of Gods Church, there is no Antichriſt; now the Pope ſitteth in the Holy Church, and taketh unto him that Honour and Worſhip which is due unto God onely, therefore the Pope muſt be the true Antichriſt. It is but a cold, and an idle dream of the Papiſts, that Antichriſt ſhould be a ſingle, and an unattended perſon that ſhould govern in a wilde way by ſuborning, and ſcattering of moneys in the ſtreets, and that he ſhould do Miracles, and carry about him a fiery Oven, and that he ſhould deſtroy the Saints, *Eliah*, and *Enoch*. There are too many (ſaid *Luther*) who complain and think,

The Pope true Antichriſt, and muſt fall, page, 312.

I am too fierce and too violent againſt the Pope, when alas I conceive my ſelf to be too milde; I do wiſh that I could breath out thunder-bolts againſt the Pope and Popery, and that every word were a clap of Thunder.

I do believe, ſaith *Luther*, that the Pope out of ſpecial conſideration, ordained and appointed the Feaſts of St. *Silveſter*, and of St. *Thomas Becket* of *Canterbury*, to be Celebrated eight days after the Nativity of our Saviour, in regard that St. *Thomas* of *Canterbury* brought unto the Pope the Kingdom of *England*, and St. *Silveſter* the Empire of *Rome*.

In the year one thouſand five hundred and thirty, in the Raign of *Henry* the eighth; the Pope endeavoured by money to corrupt ſome of the Kings Counſellours; and promiſed one of them who was of the Blood-Royal, and near unto the Kings Perſon, that he would give that Kingdom unto him. The Pope boaſted that he himſelf was Heir unto that Kingdome, by reaſon it was held as from him *per feodum*, but the Popes pride is ſo great, that he muſt fall; and it is no great wonder (ſaith *Luther*) that even in his time, the Majeſty of the Pope was already fallen. All Monarchs, Emperours, Kings, and Princes before *Luthers* time, did ever tremble at the Majeſty and the Power of the Pope, none durſt mutter ſo much as one word againſt him. This great god is now fallen, his own creatures the Monks and Fryers do begin to be his Enemies, and they onely adhear unto him for their Lucres ſake.

The Pope boaſted in *Luthers* days that he was Heir to the Kingdome of *England*. page, 310.

Popery muſt needs be brought to the ſtake and pay for all; the Pope ſhall be devoured by Monks and Friers, which are his own Vermine and Creatures; It is they who do ſhake and make looſe the faireſt Monarchy of Popery, which with great Advice and Conſideration was erected. He hath forbidden them to enter into the State of Matrimony, when notwithſtanding he hath commanded the ſame to be obſerved as a Sacrament; but if Matrimony be a Sacrament, ſaith *Luther*, then it cannot be obſerved by the Heathen; for the Unbelieving *Gentiles* who are the Heathen, have nothing to doe with the Sacraments.

The

Another Reason of the Popes Fall.

The Pope (saith *Luther*) must and shall fall; the blindnesse of the Papists is great and horrible, and is much to be admired, because in the Reconciliation for the living and the (and though they would pretend it is a Sacrifice of Thanksgiving) yet all their Cannonists and School-Divines, and their Preachers in their Pulpits do apparently disprove it; you may observe the impudence of some Popelins, that go about to prove this horrible Errour; every Lievetenant say they, hath the same full and compleat power as his Lord and Master: *Peter* was Christs Lievetenant, therefore he hath the same power that Christ had; and because Christ saith, *To me is given all power in Heaven, and in Earth*; therefore they conclude, that the Pope who is *Peters* Lievetenant, hath the same Power as Christ himself.

To this *Luther* answers, That suppose it be granted, that *Peter* was Christs Lievetenant here on Earth, so long as he demeaned himself according to Christs word? yet it doth not hereupon follow, that *Peter* is Christs Lievetenant in Heaven; for Christ that said unto him, *what thou bindest on Earth*, doth not say unto him, what thou shalt binde in Heaven. He saith unto *Peter*, *follow me*, *feed my sheep*, my kingdome is not of this World; that is to say, it is not gotten by humane strength and power, neither will it be maintained thereby.

The Pope therefore (saith *Luther*) is a Right *Jew*, who boasteth to enjoy by Christ a temporal Kingdome, he alone will have all the Power & Authority, he will Rule and Determine all Councels, and Encroach upon them under the Name of God; If one should have defloured the Virgin *Mary*, or have crucified Christ; yet the Pope for money could pardon and forgive the same; therefore his Dominion is but short, and will be brought to Confusion in the year, 666. according to the Number of the Beast, in the thirteenth Chapter of the *Revelations*.

Page, 306.

Another reason of the Popes Fall.

Again, Popedome (saith *Luther*) must fall; It hath been alwayes managed by wicked persons, and Correspondent to their Doctrine; for as the Creator is, such is also his Creature.

Pope

Pope *Alexander* was a Moran, that is to say a Baptiſed *Jew*, he believed nothing at all; he had a Concubine called *Lucretia*, to whom he afterwards eſpouſed his own Son: the Pope that ſucceeded him was ſo great an enemy to him, that he cauſed all the Gates, Doors, and Windows on which his Name was Written, or his Armes Pourtrayed, to be broken down and defaced; when God ſpeaketh the word *Jeruſalem* fall; *Rome* be deſtroyed and lye in the Aſhes, Pope come down from your Throne, the word of God will be obeyed, and muſt be accompliſhed immediately.

Pope *Julius* the ſecond, celebrated a faire Maſſe to the Devil upon *Eaſter* day in the morning, at which time he made a lamentable Slaughter, and Maſſacre with the *French*, in which twenty thouſand Chriſtians were ſlain. The Pope and his accomplices (ſaith *Luther*) ſtrive not for the benefit or the advancement of the Church, but onely to purchaſe Wealth, and to overcome Kingdomes and Countries. Therefore the Legal and Juſt proceedings of God, will fall upon the Pope and his Retinue, as already it hath begun; for againſt him, the three firſt Petitions in the Lords Prayer may juſtly be inverted; Blaſphemed and Accurſed be the name of the Pope, his Kingdome be deſtroyed and thrown down, his will be diſappointed and confounded; I hope (ſaith *Luther*) the numbers of his Fryers and of his Nuns ſhall no more increaſe, when the Popes feet are chopt off, then he muſt creep, for he cannot ſtand long as he now ſtandeth. Page 302. Page, 307.

Again the Pope muſt fall, for he can neither be Primate, nor chief Head in Chriſtendome, and no ways poſſibly can viſite and govern all the Churches, no not although he were *Elias*, *Eliſha*, *Peter* or *Paul*. *Melanchon* put a queſtion to *Luther*, and ſaid, *In caſe the Emperour ſhould give over all his Right and Intereſt to the Pope, whether ought we to ſhew obedience to the Pope or not?* Whereupon *Luther* replyed, *The Emperour as an ordained Governour, hath no power to reſign over his Intereſts to the Pope who is no Magiſtrate nor Governour*; For the Pope is a thing which ſtandeth upon no ground,

neither could it be called a Reſignation to turn over the Emperours Right, and Titles to the *Pope*, but it would be rather a Devaſtation whereby the Empire would be leſſened and extenuated. The Emperour hath neither Right nor Power to do it, for the Empire is not his own; it is not Succeſſive but Elective. To conclude, when it is denyed that the Pope is a Governour (as in truth he is not) then is he bereaved of all, for whatſoever he hath, he hath it not by Right, but hath *Stolen* and uſurped it. When it is ſpoken; therefore that the Emperour received the Empire of the Pope, it is of no valve, for he could never give that which he never had; And it is a meer Fable, that either *Conſtantine* the Emperour, or *Charles* the Great, gave to the Pope ſuch great Poſſeſſions as is boaſted off; It was the Avarice of the Popes, and not any great Donations of the Emperours, by which the Popes have acquired ſuch great Poſſeſſions; In former times the Popes were not Lords over Emperours and Kings, but the Popes were inſtituted and ordained by Emperours.

Page, 305.

Pride again muſt have a fall, and ſo undoubtedly muſt the Pope; The Pope in one day (ſaid *Luther*) made thirty Cardinalls, which on the other ſide of the River of *Tiber* were Mett and Received by a gallant Body of Horſe, whereat, all the Cannons in the City of *Rome* were diſcharged, and the Acclamations and the Joyes of the People did ſtrive to out-voice the Thunders of the Cannons; at the laſt the Pope himſelf came into the Field, at which the Great Guns in *Rome* were all diſcharged; and what with the noyſe of the Cannons, and the hurry of the People; the Confuſion begat a Terrour and a Trepidation, which was ſo great in the City, that the Temples alſo were ſenſible of it; inſomuch, that in one of the Churches, the Child fell out of the armes of the Bleſſed Virgin; and (if we may believe Paſquil) he aſcended up into heaven, fearing that amongſt the reſt, he alſo ſhould be made a Cardinal. On the ſame day and at the ſame time, a Prieſt ſaying Maſſe at the Altar, did drop the conſecrated Hoſt, and for fear

fear ſpilled the Cup, which being brought on the next day to the care of the Pope; he ſaid, that one of thoſe whom he had Created a Cardinall, would prove a Plague to the Church of *Rome*; which not long afterwards, did fall out accordingly: not long afterward the Goſpel began to be Revealed again, and brought to light by the Pen, and by the Preaching of *Martin Luther*; ſome time after that when the Poſitions of *Martin Luther* concerning the Popes Indulgences, were brought unto the Pope: He ſaid, *A Drunken* Dutch man *wrote them, and when he hath taken a good Nap, and is ſober again he will then be of another minde?* no more did he valve that Blow from *Luthers* Hand, which hath made his Chaire to totter ever ſince.

I would willingly (ſaith *Luther*) fall upon the Popes Decrees and Canons; no name or ſtile, is bad enough for him, his Wickedneſſe cannot be Sounded or Expreſſed; therefore Chriſt in one word ſheweth it, and calleth him an *Abomination of Deſſolation that ſtandeth on the Holy Mount.* St. *Paul* nameth him, *An Oppoſer or Adverſary, that exalteth himſelf above all that is called God.* *Daniel* alſo Propheeyeth the ſame, and ſaith, *He ſhall be proud, and not regard the God of his Fathers.*

The Pope & his accomplices relying on their great Power, and preſumption that they ſhal never fal; do thereby Confound themſelves: the Idolatry and Superſtition in Popery, had for a time great Power and Operation; For *Daniel* touching Antichriſt ſaid, *And he ſhall proſper till the Indignation is now near accompliſhed, for the Pope in Gods good time will moſt undoubtedly fall*; God will overthrow him, and ſuddenly, if our own Secureneſs, and the contempt of Gods Word doth give no hinderance to it. Let us pray, that even the ſame misfortune may light upon Their Heads, which They intend againſt Us, and that They may fall into that Pit, which They have digged for Us. We have humbled our ſelves and ſuffered enough; They have Burned, Hanged, Drowned and Baniſhed thoſe that were amongſt Us. They will no wayes ſuffer themſelves to be recalled from their Deviliſh Practiſes. The Pope falling in *Luthers* time, p. 314.

But we have one Remedy, Christ Jesus, the Son of GOD, and of the Blessed Virgin; It is he who is by GOD Annointed King; He will, and shall stand fast to defend his own Cause in spite of all Opposition; He hath Overcome and Destroyed many Great Kings, and laid them in the Dust; For my part I will hold with Him, and fight under his Banners, rather then joyn with the *Turk*, with the Emperour, or the whole Universall World; The sighes of GODS People do cry up unto Heaven against the Pope, as Jesus the Son of *Sirach* saith; *The Tears of the Destressed do fall downwards, yet nevertheless they do ascend upwards.*

Page, 319. Another Reason, and a Great one too, of the Infallible Fall of the Pope is, the wilfull and obstinate Darkenesse on which the very Foundation of Popery is laid, and the wicked Superstition reared; I know not what (saith *Luther*) to think of it, but onely by the words of *St. Paul*, where he saith, 2 *Thessal.* 2. *Because they Received not the love of the Truth that they may be Saved*; GOD will send them strong delusions, that they shall believe a Lye: The Pope hath two Pillars, on which the greatest part of his strength doth lean; The one is, *Whatsoever you shall bind on Earth, the same also shall be bound in Heaven*; And the other, the command which our Saviour gave to *Peter*, *Feed my Sheep.* These two Sentences, the Pope hath wrested so far, that thereby he assumeth the Authority and Confidence to Govern; and Mannage all things in the Church, and not in the Church onely; but in Temporall Governments also, according to his own will and pleasure; Upon this account he hath altered both the Form and Substance of the True Doctrine, he hath damned, and saved whom he pleased. He hath deposed Emperours, Kings, and Princes; as if our Saviour when he said, *Whatsoever you bind, or whatsoever you loose*, had confined the sence and interpretation of those words onely to a Temporal Jurisdiction, which indeed most properly belongeth, to broken and to contrite Spirits,

Spirits, and to the Doctrine of Faith. The Decretalls of the Pope also are full of Errours and of Tyranny, in which the Pope deprived of all shame, speaketh in this manner, *Non est præsumendum quod apex tantæ Celsitudinis errare possit*; It is not to be presumed that the top of so great a Highness can erre: In this the Decretalls make half a GOD of the Pope; Amongst whose Canons also it is to be Read, *Quod Authoritas Sacræ Scripturæ pendeat a Sede Romana*, which is, That the Authority of the Holy Scripture doth depend on the Sea of *Rome*; Now when the Pope had perswaded the people to believe this, he made them afterwards believe what he himself pleased, and brought it so far, that a Christian denyed the Merits of the Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and put on the Hood of a Friar seeking therein his Salvation. This was such an abominable Fall, and an Apostacy (said *Luther*) that had it bin done by a Heathen it had been too much: These powerful Errours suffered no man to come to the Knowledge of the Truth, as *Daniel* prophecied concerning the same; *Erit Tempus quo prosternetur Veritas*; A Time there will be, when Truth shall be trod under feet. The Infidelity and Superstition of the Jewes is not so great as the Popes, for they maintained their Worship by the Law of God, although but superstitiously and unbelievingly they understood it; But the Pope proceedeth directly against GODS Word, and treadeth on the same with his feet, for which he shall be trod upon himself by the feet of the Indignation of GOD, he shall perish and be seen no more. *Luther*, pa. 319.

Of the Kingdoms of Christ, and of the Pope, and the Turk, p. 322.

The Kingdome of Christ, saith *Luther*, is a Kingdome of Mercy, of Grace and Happinesse. The Kingdome of the Pope is Lyes and Damnation; The Kingdome of Mahomet is a Kingdome of Revenge, of Wrath and Devastation; The Kingdome of Christ shall know no end, but will continue for evermore; The Kingdome of the Pope, is a Kingdome of Incontinency, as well of Lyes, and will undoubtedly come unto perdition with the Children of perdition. A Reformation being lately made at *Wortzburgh*

amongſt the Divines, they were conſtrained to put away the Maiden and the Woman Cooks, which continued but for a Fortnight, for the Prebends did find the inconvenience ſo great, that they had leave to take them and to receive them again; But the Woman-Cooks refuſed to live with the Prebends, unleſs they would take and defend them, as if they were their own Wives; whereupon they took them on ſuch Conditions, and were Apparelled in ſuch a Habit, that they might not be known. I have heard (ſaith *Luther*) a Lock-Smith ſay, that for the ſpace of a fortnight, day, and night he had work enough to do in making Keyes for them, for every one of theſe Women would have a Key to her Prebends Chamber, becauſe formerly they put them away as their Whores, but now they took them as their Wives again. Such wicked wretches muſt Popery have for her Rulers and her Governours.

Luther, page 322.

In the time of *Leo* the tenth, there were two *Auguſtine* Friars in a Monaſtry, who being much troubled to obſerve the Errours, Idolatries, and Voluptuous lives of their Aſſociates, did in their Sermons preach againſt them, and mentioned, with all, ſome particulars againſt the Pope himſelf; But in the Night time two ſecret Murderers we ſent to diſpatch them, who firſt cut off their Heads, and then pulled out their Tongues, and ſtuck them in their Fundaments; for ſuch Murthers, Idolatryes, and Higheſt Prophaneneſſe, God is at Enmity with the Church of *Rome*, and will undoubtedly bring it to Deſtruction.

If I had not been a Schollar (ſaid *Luther*) I could never have given ſuch a Fall to the Church of *Rome*, for Satan had made me work enough, it was no eaſie Task for me to ſubvert, and to alter the whole Religion of Popery, which was ſo deeply rooted; but I promiſed, and did ſwear in Baptiſme, that I would cleave faſt to Chriſt and his Word, and that ſteadfaſtly I would believe in Him, and utterly renounce the Devil and all his Works; This Oath I renewed in all my Tribulations, without which they had overwhelmed and made an end of me; In ſome partieu-

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lars I could willingly have shewed Obedience to the Bishops, but they would have had me roundly to deny Christ, make God a Lyer, and say the Gospel is Heresie.

The first blow that *Luther* gave to the Church of *Rome*, was by the Oppositions to the Positions of that great Papist *Tecelius*, in which *Tecelius* was so prophanely bold, as to compare the Pope with *Peter*, and the Crosse Erected by the Pope to the Crosse of Christ; These Assertions (amongst many others of the like Nature) being brought to *Wittenbergh*, they were burned by the Students in the Market place, of which *Luther* himself giveth this Account to a Friend of his in these words; The Students in the University, being extreamly weary of their old course of Studies, and most desirous of the Sacred Bible, out of their love to me they came unto *Tecelius*, and made themselves merry with him, and some of them being more violent then the rest, demanded of him how he dared to bring thither such paultry and chaffy stuffe; At the last, they took the Positions from him, and publickly burned them in the Market Place about two of the Clock in the afternoon. All this (saith *Luther*) was immediately known to the Prince, the Senate, and Rector, and to all of Us. This great Injury done, did much displease me, and although I am blameless, yet I fear the whole proceeding will be laid to my Charge.

After this *Johannes Hogostratus*, a Dominican Friar wrote bitterly against *Luther*, and did excite the Pope to prosecute *Luther* with more violence, and to use with him the rounder Course of Fire and Fagot, whereupon *Luther* not long afterwards Addressed himself to *Hidelbergh*, and in the Colledge of the *Augustinians*, now called the Colledge of *Sapience*, he Disputed about Justification by Faith; The Learned *Bucer* was there present, and Imparted all to *Beatus Rhenanus*, who gave *Luther* much deserved Commendations; whereupon, *Luther* himself acknowledged, All the Doctors there, in the Doctrine, concerning Grace, and good works, are of my Judgement, yea almost the whole University, the Prince himself, and our Bishop in Ordinary, and all the

See *Luther*, *Tom.* 1 *Epist.* page 60.

the Ingenious Citizens with one consent affirme, that before they neither knew, nor heard of the Gospel, nor of Christ.

After this, *Luther* was summoned to *Rome* to maintaine some thing which he had written against Indulgencies, but *Luther* used his best endeavours, that the Cause might be heard in *Germany* under Competent Judges, and at length he prevailed by the Mediation of the University of *Wittenbergh* to the Pope, whereupon it was Determined that the Council should be held at *Ausburg*, where *Luther* being Admonished by Cardinal *Thomas Cajetan* to Revoke his Errours which tended only to Disturb the Peace of the Church; He made Answer, *That he could Revoke no Errours, being as yet not Convicted by any Scripture of any, and thereupon did Appeal to the Judgement of the Church*; But the Cardinal observing the strength of his Arguments, and Commanding him not to come into his presence, unless he would Recant; *Luther* was inforced to depart, which Cardinal *Cajetan* took so ill, that he wrote unto the Duke of *Saxony*, *That he would either send* Luther *to* Rome, *or Banish him out of his Territoryes, and Exhorted him not to Adhere to* Luther's *Defenders, nor stain the Illustrious Family of which he was Descended*: But the Elector Returned Answer, *That it was not in his Power to do it, because* Luther *was not Convicted of any Errour, and had done much good Service in the University, and Offered his Cause to Tryal and Disputation*.

At this time the Heroical Courage of *Luther* was very remarkable, for when *Luther* came at first to *Ausburg*, he by the Advice of such as the Prince Elector sent with him, did attend three whole Dayes to have the Emperours Letter for his safety; The Cardinal in the mean time did send a Gentleman for *Luther* to come to him, which *Luther* denied, untill the Emperour had granted what he desired, whereat the Gentleman being much offended, said unto Him; *Do you presume that Prince* Frederick *will take up Armes in your behalf? I desire it not* (said Luther) *in any wise*; whereupon the Gentleman replyed, *Where then will you abide? Luther* made Answer, *Under the Cope of Heaven*; whereupon the Gentleman being almost amazed at his Confidence, said unto

unto him; *Suppose you had got the Pope, and the Cardinalls in your own Power, what would you do with them?* I would (said Luther) *give them Honour, and Reverence; but the fall of Popery is already Begun, and I shall see it Accomplished.*

Upon these Considerations, *Luther*'s heart fainted not, and he Appealed from the Pope to the Council; and much about the same time the *Bohemians* sent a Book to *Luther*, which was written by *John Hus*, wch Incouraged him to Constancy, and Patience, and manifested that the Divinity which he Taught, was Sound and True, and which in its due time would procure the over-throw both of Pope and Popery.

A *Disputation* after this was held at *Leipswich*, a City in *Misnia*, and Famous since, for the memorable Battels that were fought betwixt the Forces of the Emperour, and the Army of the King of *Sweden*; here *Luther* was invited by *John Echius* to a Disputation; The *Argument*, or Chief *Question* was, *Whether the Pope is Head of the Church by Divine Right?* which *Echius* Affirmed, and *Martin Luther* Denyed; The Chief *Argument* of *Echius* was, *That the Church could not be without a Head, seeing it was a Body consisting of several Members*; and the better to Confirm himself, he produced the place in *St. Matthew*, *Thou art Peter*, and some Sentences of *St. Jerome*, and *St. Cyprian*, and the Judgement of the Councill of *Constance*, in which it was Concluded, *That it was necessary to Salvation, that men should believe that the Pope was the Oecomenical Bishop, or Christs Vicar over the whole World*; but *Luther* did Refell his *Arguments* with so much Vigour and Acuteneſſe of Spirit, that his Adversaries were amazed to find him so well prepared; After that they entred into Disputation concerning *Purgatory* and *Indulgencies*; concerning *Repentance*, and *Remission of sins*, and the *punishment of them*, and concerning the *Power of the Priests*; This *Disputation*, was afterwards set forth by *Luther* himself, to his great Commendation. *Epist. Tom.* 1 page, 176.

Luther finding that by so many over-throws which he had given to the Church of *Rome*, he had contracted the Envy, and the Hatred of several Persons of Eminency, he Addressed himself in a Letter to *Charles* the Emperour, in which

he Humbly besought him, *That he would so long vouchsafe him his protection, as that he might give an account of his proceedings to the World, and either be known to overcome himself, or to be overcome by others*, he declared himself, *that it would not become his Imperial Majesty to permit that the Innocent should be violently handled, and be trampled on by their Wicked Adversaries.* To the same Effect he Directed his Letters to the Marquises, Earles, and Lords of the Empire; Not long afterwards he did write to the Arch-Bishop of *Mentz*, and Represented to him how he was Condemned by two sorts of Men, *By some who never did Read his Books*, and by Others, *Who had Read them but with hearts full of Hatred and Prejudice*; The Arch Bishop returned him a Civil Answer, *That he heartily Desired that all matters in Religion should be handled by* Luther, *and all Others, Religiously, Reverently and Modestly, and without any Envy, Tumult and Contumely*, to which *Luther* Answered, *That if the work be of GOD, it will stand firme, and unmoveable, but if it were out of sinister respects, it would easily be blown away.*

The Pope at this time proceeding violently against *Luther*, some Noble Men of *Germany*, who were of the same Judgement with *Luther*, did offer him Intertainment, and Protection; Amongst whom *Sylvester de Schavenburgen* did write a Letter to him, to desire him not to depart into *Bohemia*, nor into *France* or any other Country, but to have recourse to him, during the time of the Popes Exasperations and Threatnings, and promised that a Troup of *French* Horse should be ready to attend his safety; Hereupon *Luther* reassuming new Courage did admonish *Spaletenus* of it in a Letter to this Effect; *I have here sent you the* Letter *of the French* King Knight Sylvester de Schavenburgen, *and were it not displeasing to you; I do desire that by a Letter from the Prince, notice may be given to the Cardinal of St. George, whereby he might understand, that should they with their Courses, and their Threatnings expell me from* Wittenbergh, *they should Effect nothing else, but make a bad matter much worse.* For now there are such, and so many Princes not only in *Bohemia*, but in the midst of *Germany*, who both can and will defend me from the threats thundred out against me by my Adversaries. This

Tom. 1. Epist

unless,

unleſs God prevent it, will doubtleſs be the iſſue of his matter, concerning my ſelf, I am ready to Adventure upon all Dangers, and equally Contemn both the Favour of *Rome*, and the Fury of *Rome*; *Let them Cenſure and Condemn all that I have written to the Fire, I will not be reconciled to them, nor at any time will I joyne with them, but if I can get any fire where I am, I will burn all the Pontifician Law, the ſink of Hereſies, yea I will make no more Addreſſes wherewith the Enemies of the Goſpel, are more and more incenſed.*

Luther underſtanding that the *Popes Bull* was coming forth againſt him, did publiſh his Book of the *Babilonian Captivity*, and that Indulgences were the wicked tricks of the flattery of *Rome*; He wrote alſo againſt the *Execrable Bull* of *Antichriſt*, and called the *Pope antichriſt*, and confirmed the thirty *Articles* cenſured by the *Bull*.

It is remarkable, that *Eraſmus* being promiſed by the Advocates of the Pope, the greateſt favours if he would but write againſt *Luther*; *Eraſmus* did mildly Anſwer, *That* Luther *was a man too great for him to write againſt, and that he Learned more from one ſhort page in* Luther, *then from all the Books of* Thomas Aquinas; Nevertheleſs *Eraſmus* being afterwards overcome by ſome great perſons to write againſt *Luther*, did perform his Task with much lenity, and candour, although *Luther* could never after afford him any good word, but according to the diſpoſition of his Temper and Complexion would be very hot and violent againſt him, which he alwayes expreſſed, as often as any occaſion was given to make mention of him; And indeed this inclination he condemneth in himſelf; *Almoſt all men* (ſaith Luther) *do reprove me for too much eagerneſs*; *But I am of a mind, that it is GODS will to have the inventions of men in this manner oppoſed, for I ſee many things in this our Age that are quietly handled to be ſoon forgotten, & no man to regard them, I do not deny but that I am more vehement then is fit, and this is the reaſon why I have alwaies been ſo averſe in ſhowing my ſelf in Publick, but grievous wrongs were done to the word of GOD, and to the Truth thereof*; whereupon it fell out, that had I not been apt by Nature to Vehemency, and Imbittering my ſtile, the very Indignity of

Tom. 2. Epiſt page 6.

the matter would have urged a dead and ſtony heart to have written ſharply, how much more my ſelf who am of an ardent ſpirit, and write not a heavy ſtile, Monſters of Men carried me beyond the due temper of Modeſty.

For the warrant of this ſharpneſs he uſed to alledge the Example of Chriſt, who called the Jews *an Adulterous, and Perverſe Generation, a Generation of Vipers, Hypocrites, Children of the Devil*; he would alſo alleadge the Example of Saint *Paul*, who calleth them *Doggs, Vain-bablers, Seducers, and Illiterate*; whereupon *Eraſmus*, who was all Candour and Mildneſs, and did bear no great good Affection to the Chair of *Rome*, was wont to ſay of *Luther* in regard of the Diſeaſes of this laſt Age of the World. GOD hath ſent them a ſharp Phyſitian; and *Charles* the Emperour of *Germany* would ſay of him; *If the Pope and his Prieſts were ſuch as they ſhould be, they would never need a* Luther.

Luther being diſwaded by many of his Friends from going to the Council that was held at *Wormes* who told him, *That by the burning of his Books he might well gueſs what was the Popes Cenſure concerning himſelf*; He with a Reſolute Courage ſaid, *Theſe diſcouragements are caſt into my way by Satan, who knew that by the profeſſion of the Truth, eſpecially in ſo Illuſtrious a place, his Kingdome would be ſhaken, and indammaged*; It is recorded that the Duke of *Bavariare*'s Jeſter, whether ſuborned by others, or by Accident, it is uncertain, did meet *Martin Luther* at his Entrance into the City of *Worms* with ſuch a Croſs as is accuſtomed to be carried in Funerals, and with a loud voice he ſaid unto him, *Welcome hither, O thou much deſired of us, who ſate in Darkneſs.*

In this Council *Luther* being demanded of *Ecchius* to declare his Reſolution concerning his Books, he humbly Deſired of the Emperour, and Princes to grant him their Gentle Attention, which being accorded to, he ſaid, *Of the Books which I have written, ſome of them do tend unto Faith, and Piety, to theſe my Adverſaries, of themſelves do give ample Teſtimony; Should I recant theſe, I may juſtly be cenſured as a wicked man: Others of my Books are againſt the* Pope of Rome, *and the foule Corruptions of the Church of* Rome, *which ſo much doth*

trouble

trouble the Chriſtian World, and bringeth ſo much miſchief; Theſe ſhould I revoke, I ſhould confirme their Tyranny; The third ſort of my Books are againſt thoſe perſons who defend the Papiſts Cauſe, againſt which I muſt confeſſe I have been very Vehement, and yet I cannot Recant thoſe Books, unleſſe I will ſet open a gap to the Impudency of many; And unleſſe I be Convicted by Teſtimony of Scripture, or by Evident Reaſon, I may not Revoke any thing which I have Written or Spoken; for I will not in any wiſe wound my Conſcience, I neither can nor will do any thing to the Offence of my Conſcience; This will I ſtand to, and vary from this I may not; GOD Help me, Amen. *This will I defend, though I was preſently to dye*: Concerning this, he not long afterwards publiſhed this Excellent Proteſtation.

The Excellent Proteſtation of *Luther.*

I Martin Luther, *An Unworthy Preacher of the Goſpel of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt do profeſſe, and Believe that Faith alone without Reſpect to our Good Works doth Juſtifie us before GOD, and that this Article cannot be overthrown by* the Roman Emperour, *or the* Turk, *or the* Tartarian, *or the* Perſian, *nor by the* Pope, *nor all his* Cardinals, Biſhops, Sacrifizers, Monks, Nuns, Kings, Princes, Potentates *of the World, nor all the* Devils *in Hell. This Article will they, nill they, will ſtand, the Gates of Hell cannot prevaile againſt it. The Spirit of GOD doth Dictate this unto me; This is the True Goſpel, For thus the Article in the Mouth of all Chriſtian Children hath it*; I Believe in Jeſus Chriſt Crucified and Dead; *Now no man dyed for our Sins, but* Jeſus Chriſt *the* Son *of* GOD, *the One, and Onely* Son *of* GOD; *I ſay it again and again*; Jeſus, *the One, and Onely* Son *of* GOD, *Redeemed us from our Sins. This is the moſt ſurely Grounded, the moſt Undoubted Doctrine; This the whole Scripture aloud proclaimeth, though the Devils, the Pope, and the World do ſtorme, and burſt with Anger at it; And if Chriſt alone doth take away the ſins of the World, we verily cannot do it with our own Works, and it is impoſſible that I can lay hold on Chriſt, otherwiſe then by Faith. He is never apprehended*

by my good Works; and ſeing Faith alone layeth hold on our Redeemer, and not our Works which are but the Concomitants of our Faith; it is a moſt undoubted Truth, that Faith alone before our Works, or without our Works doth this; for it is nothing elſe to be Juſtified, but to be Redeemed from our Sins; Goods works do follow our Faith, as the Effects, and Fruits thereof. This Doctrine do I Teach, in this will I perſist; Amen, Amen.

Not long before, *Luther* confuted *Nicholas Storke*, *Thomas Muncer*, and other Phanatick perſons, who called themſelves Prophets, and broaching new Doctrines, pretended Evangelical Revelations, and Conferences with God himſelf: Theſe were they who denyed the Baptiſme of Infants, and thereby ſowed the ſeed of Anabaptiſme, and were powerfully and Victoriouſly oppoſed by *Luther*; Some few years afterwards, the Anabaptiſts finding *Wittenbergh* too hot for them, did ſpread themſelves over all *Helvetia*, and other parts of *Germany*, and began to broach their Fancies at *Antwerp*; whereupon *Luther* by an Epiſtle full of Chriſtian Direction, did Advertiſe the Reformed Church at *Antwerp* to take heed of ſuch Erronious Spirits, who had very much afflicted him. In the ſame Letter, he recited the Impoſtures of falſe Spirits in Popery, and of other ſeducing Spirits of the preſent times. And in another Letter he again deſcribed the Erronious Articles of the Tumultuous Spirits at *Antwerp*, and clearly opened the Inconſtancy, boldneſs and ſecret Pride, lurking in that profeſſion, and intreating them to abandon the Queſtion concerning Gods Hidden Will, he deſired them to attend unto, and to follow the neceſſary precepts ſet before them by GOD himſelf in his own word. The Articles of the Anabaptiſts were theſe;

Luther Ton. 4. Jen. p. 467.

1. That every Man hath the Spririt.
2. That the Spirit was nothing elſe but our Reaſon and Underſtanding.
3. That every man believeth.
4. That there was no place of Torment for men ſoules, but that the Body onely was condemned.
5. That every Soul ſhould be ſaved. 6. But

6. But even by the Law of Nature, we are taught to do good to our Neighbors, as we would they ſhould do unto us, and that this Will in us was Faith.

7. That we ſin not againſt the Law, by deſiring any thing, if our Will conſent not to our Deſires and Luſts.

8. That he who hath not the Spirit, hath not Sin, becauſe he wanteth Reaſon, which Reaſon theſe Anabaptiſts do call the Holy Ghoſt.

Luther wrote a Letter of Conſolation to *John Heſſius* of *Breſhaw*, to vindicate himſelf from the Scandal raiſed by the Heretick and the Sectaries, and they fighting againſt the Articles of the True Faith. Hitherto (ſaith *Luther*) *The Diſpute hath been about the Pope, and Purgatory and the like, being all about differences not grounded on the Scriptures; but now we come to more ſerious matters; now we ſhall ſee the Draggon fighting, or rather we ſhall combate with the Draggon*, Michael *being our Captain in theſe Heavenly Fights. Now when the Draggon doth endeavour to pull down the third part of the ſtarrs with his Tayle to the Earth; now the Cauſe will call for our ſtrength in Chriſt; now you ſhall ſee what manner of a Warrier, and how ſtrong a Champion Satan is, whom yet we have not tryed, nor have had ſufficient Evidence of him; but the Foundation of God, ſtandeth firm, having this Seal, that God knoweth who are his, and in this, let us be confident to prevaile againſt the Gates of Hell.*

The wicked deſires of ſome of the Reformed Miniſters in *Germany*, and others, who rather then endure the Papiſts, deſired the yoak of the *Turk*; declared againſt by *Luther*. *Tom. 4. Epiſt. Jen.*

It is very Remarkable, that ſome Preachers of the Reformed Churches in the difficulty of their times proceeded to that height of Folly, that they deſired, that the *Turk* might come and lay his yoak upon them, which they conceived would be more eaſie then the Burden of the Pope; and o-the Paſtors vainly perſwading the People, that War was not to be Weighed againſt the *Turk*; *Luther* at the ſame time, did put forth a Book againſt the *Turk* in the *German* Tongue, the *Turks* being then with a great Army before *Vienna*, the chief City of the Empire; In this Book *Luther* ſpake words of Conſolation to the Emperour, and by way of Prophecy did aſſure him; *That the* Turk *ſhould not at that time prevaile againſt that great City*, which ſhortly after, to the great improvement of the Eſtimation of *Luther*, did come to paſſe.

In

In the Year, One thouſand five hundred and thirty, there was held a Solemn, and a Numerous Aſſemby before the Emperour and the States of the Empire; at which *Melanchon* knowing the Rage of the Papiſts, and the Threats of the Emperour did ſeem to be very Solicitous; *Luther* having notice of it, deſired him to be Reſolute and Secure for the Proteſtant Cauſe, becauſe he was aſſured that it was Juſt and True, and that it was the Cauſe of God and Chriſt, and not ſtained with the leaſt Sin; *If we fall* (ſaith *Luther*) *Chriſt the Lord and the Ruler of the World falleth with us, and ſuppoſe the Cauſe of Chriſt doth fall, I had rather* (ſaith *Luther*) *fall with Chriſt, then ſtand with* Cæſar, *I intreat you therefore not to forget Gods promiſes; Caſt thy Care upon the* LORD; *Have thy Eyes fixed on him, play the Man, let thy Heart be Comforted!* and in the Goſpel of St. *John, Be of good Comfort, for I have overcome the World.* if Chriſt be the Conquerer of the 'World, why ſhould we fear it, as if it would overcome us. 'I extreamly diſlike your exceſſive cares with which you ſay 'you are conſumed, that theſe Sorrows prevaile ſo much 'upon you, is not from the Weakneſſe of our Cauſe, but 'from the Greatneſſe of your Incredulity; for there 'were more grounds of Fear and of Trepidation in '*John Hus* his time, then ours; But grant that there be a 'great cauſe of Doubt; God who is the Agent and 'the chief mover in it, is of greater power, for it is not 'our cauſe but his; Why then do you afflict your ſelf? 'If the cauſe be faulty, let us revoke it; but if it be 'good, why do we make God a Lyer, who hath made 'us ſo great promiſes? ſaying, *Caſt thy Care upon the Lord, the Lord is near unto all, who being of a troubled Heart do call upon him;* Is it poſſible for you to effect any thing with your unprofitable Fears and Jeloufies, I pray you tell me; What can the Devill do more unto us then kill us? I beſeech you, ſeeing in all other things you are a good Chriſtian Souldier, that you would endeavour to overcome your ſelf as being your ſelf your Greateſt Enemy, nor provide any Armour to arme Satan againſt your ſelf, Chriſt dyed once for ſin, but for a Juſt and

Pſal. 55.
Pſal. 27.

The Chriſtian Reſolution of Luther.

and true Cauſe he ſhall never dye, but live and reign in triumph. Tell me then what fear is there for the truth, if Chriſt reign; if it be caſt down by the wrath of God, let us be caſt down with it, but let it not be done by our ſelves. He who is become our father, will become the father of all thoſe that put their truſt in him. God is able to raiſe the Dead: He is powerfull to maintain his own Cauſe ready to fall, yea to raiſe it again if it were fallen, and to promote and advance it as it now ſubſiſteth. If he think us unworthy to be his inſtruments in ſo great a work, let it be done by others. And if we be not intreſted in his promiſes, I pray you, who are they in the world whom they belong unto?

The Proteſtants Confeſſion was afterwards cheerfully ſubſcribed by *John* Duke of *Saxony*, *George* Marquis of *Brandenburgh*, *Erneſtus* Duke of *Brunſwick*, and *Francis* Duke of *Lunenburgh*, *Philip Landgrave* of *Haſſia*, and *Wolfgany* Prince of *Anhalt*, ſuch great and eminent perſons had the Goſpel in a ſhort time procured to maintain the purity thereof, it was alſo acknowledged and ſubſcribed to, by two Imperial Cities, the City of *Norimburgh*, and the City of *Reutlin*, the papiſts were commanded to confute it if they could, which confutation was at the laſt drawn up and ingroſſed, and preſented to the Emperour, but a Copy of it being not to be procured, but upon conditions that it ſhou'd not be publiſhed, nor tranſcribed, nor any Reply made thereunto, the Marquiſs of *Brandenburgh*, and the Duke of *Brunſwick* beſought the Emperour that he would permit them to take a friendly courſe for the compoſing of the Controverſy, which accordingly was granted, and of each party there were ſeven Arbitrators choſen who were to provide for the eſtabliſhment of a political peace, In which when the proteſtant party ſeemed to condeſcend too much unto the papiſts, *Luther* who was ordained the ſcourge of the Pope of *Rome*, and to be as well the Inſtrument as the prophet of his downfall, deſired thoſe who were Arbitrators for the proteſtants to be very circumſpect in what they gave unto the papiſts, for ſaid he, they will take our grants in the large, in the larger, and in

Luther *as well the great Inſtrument as the great Prophet of the Downfall of the Pope of* Rome.

the larger ſence and will exhibite and interpret their own in a ſtrict, in a ſtricter nay in the ſtricteſt ſence that poſſibly they can; In breif ſaid *Luther*, I diſlike this Arbitration for an agreement betwixt the Papiſts and proteſtants in point of Doctrine, as being a thing utterly impoſſible, unleſſe the *Pope* will aboliſh his *Popedome*: Chriſt is come, and raigneth, let the Devils if they will, turn Monkes, and Nuns, nor doth any ſhape better become them, then that in which they have hitherto ſet forth themſelves to be adored by the world.

But the Iſſue of the Arbitration came to this, that although the *Proteſtants* deſired peace of *Caſar*, yet their petition could not be granted and a war was threatened or baniſhment to fall on thoſe who would not be obedient to the Decrees of *Caſar* wherefore *Luther* with an undaunted ſpirit did publiſh a Book to the whole nation of *Germany* in the *German* tongue, in which he ſhowed them that they ought not to obey a wicked Edict, or by armes be aſſiſtant to the perſecution of the true Doctrine of the Goſpell, nor fight for Idols and other abominations of the *Papiſts*. Howſoever he did adviſe the proteſtants not to take up Armes before the Popiſh party under the Emperour ſhould invade them with war, but if they then ſhould reſiſt their enemies and defend themſelves by force of Armes, he ſaid, they were to be excuſed, ſo long as they ſtood upon their Defence and maintain the Truth of the Goſpel of Chriſt.

In the mean time diverſe of the Proteſtants were baniſhed by the *Edict* of *Caſar*, to whom *Luther* directed a letter to comfort them in their baniſhment, and adviſed them chearfully to undergo their preſent calamity and to give God thanks who indued them with patience, and who alſo vouchſafed them courage and conſtancy. He acquainted them that this triumphing of their Adverſaries was neither ſound nor laſting, and that it would periſh ſooner then they imagined; He found (he ſaid) that all the attempts of the enemies of the Goſpell were hitherto fruſtrated, and by the ſingular mercy of God fallen to the ground.

In the year one thouſand five hundred thirty and ſeven the

the Pope pretended a ſerious reformation of abuſes crept into the Church; The meeting was at *Vincentia* (a large and renowned City of the *Venetians*) at which time *Luther* publiſhed another book in anſwer to the Popiſh reformation; The picture in the frontis-peice of his book did ſhow the Argument of it, for he repreſented the Pope ſitting in a high throne, with many Cardinals round about him; the Cardinals carried in their hands long poles, on the tops whereof they had faſtened great Fox-tails, with which as with ſo many bruſhes they endeavoured to cleanſe all parts on both ſides of them, and every corner about them and beneath them.

Here, as if the Church had not contentions enough already, the ſect of the *Antinomians* ſtartled up; They held that repentance was not to be taught by the ten commandements, and they diſputed againſt thoſe Divines who declared that the Goſpell was not to be taught to any, but to ſuch as were humbled by the law. And themſelves held that whatſoever a mans life was, though never ſo impure, yet he was juſtified if he verily beleived the Goſpel. *Luther* who wraſtled with the Papiſts at *Rome*, and in *Germany* and gave them many falls, untill the heartſtrings of their Religion crack'd again, did willingly enter into the liſts with them, and did eaſily throw them on their backs. He ſhowed that the law was not given that we might be juſtified by it, but to ſhow us our ſins, and to terify our Conſciences, The law was therefore firſt to be taught and the Goſpel afterwards, which ſheweth us our Mediator Jeſus Chriſt bleſſed for evermore.

Much about this time, or not long afterwards it was that *Luther* compoſed a Treatiſe, concerning a defence of this Reformed Church lawfully, approved, and not contrary to Gods will, and now becauſe the Names of this Councill and of the Church were in every mans mouth, *Luther* did publiſh a Book in the *German* tongue concerning both of them, in the preface whereof he ſaith that the pope by calling Councils doth play with the Church of Chriſt as they do with a Dogge who offer him a cruſt of bread on the poynt

How the Pope doth play with the Church of Chriſt.

of a knife, and when the Dogge doth put his head forth to take it, they knock him on the noſe with the haft of the knife to procure laughter in thoſe who do behold it.

In the year one thouſand five hundred forty and two *Luther* publiſhed ſomething in relation to the *Turkiſh Alcoran* which was tranſlated into the *German* toungue by one *Richard* a *Dominican Frier* to which *Luther* added a faithfull admonition concerning the abandoning of the Turks Doctrine; and affirmed that not the Turk but the popre was *Antichriſt*, and upon a diffirence between the Elector of *Saxony*, and prince *Moaurice* concerning the teritoryes, and City of *worcen*, *Luther* with weighty reaſons diſſwaded both princes form there deſignes; he alſo further declared himſelf concerning a poſition propounded by him in reference to the warre againſt the Turk, for *Luther* foreſaw that to puniſh the ſins of the *Germans* the Turks in due proceſſe of Time ſhould make formidable and fortunate Incurſions into the Empier of *Germany*, to the Ruine thereof, which made him to prophecy, that upon ſuch accounts to make war againſt the Turk, was nothing elſe but to fight againſt God who doth uſe him as his whip to ſcourge them for there; ſins he therefore much lamented many great perſonages of *Germany* who ſought obſtinately to opreſſe this Goſpell, for which they muſt expect ſevere puniſhments to fall upon them.

To make againſt the Turk is to to fight againſt God who maketh the Turk his ſcourge to puniſh the German Nation.

Luther ſet forth a forme of publick prayer and Communion wherein he retained all the uſuall Rites which were not plainly repugnant to the word of God, as his preface out of the pſalmes, the Confeſſion, the Collect, the Epiſtle and Goſpell, the Creed, the prayers, the Lords prayer, the words of the Lords ſupper the thanks-giving &c: This was the firſt chance of the Rites in the Church though attempted before by *Caroloſtadius* and when two Monks of the profeſſion of the *Auguſtins* were taken by the Inquiſition and burned for neglecting the old forme, being the firſt that ſhed their bloud for the reformed Doctrine for the Faith, *Luther* renowned their Conſtancy with a Hymne or Pſalms, and extolled them as the firſt Martyrs

The monks and Nuns began to fall from the Pope.

of

of his time, of which *Erasmus Roterodamus* also maketh mention, thus both Monks and Nuns began to fall from the pope; many monkes, at this time began to abondon there monastaries being, Illuminated with the bright rayes of the Gospell, which now began to shine forth in perfect *Lusters*, to whom *Martin Luther* sent Letters af consolation as also to the three noble Virgins of *Friburg* other Nuns also left their cloysters elsewhere; whereupon *Luther* wrote thus to *Spalatinus*, there came to me nine converted Nuns who left the monastrey of *Nimpschen* they were conducted by honest Citizens I much pity them and many others like unto them who every where in great number perish by their accursed and incestuous Chastity.

The sacrifices of the masse did now begin to be every where cryed down; the *Emperour* indeavored to make a decree to suppresse the growth of the protestant Religion but all in vain, for this busines was far beter concluded of in Heaven then at *Norimberg*, and the princes and cheife Cityes of the *Empire* strove who first should intertain the Reformed Doctrine.

The masse (said *Luther*) must undoubtedly fall, Three yeares since here was a *Moorean* who shewed me for certayn that in *Asia*, and all the Eastern Countries (where are many assemblies of the Christians) there is no celebration of the masse at all, and although that in *Italy* there are many who are much addicted to my Doctrine which would find a good party there, were I not so violent against the Idolatry of the masse, yet it finds a great Influenes in *France*, and other Countryes and undoubtedly it will fall with Popery it self (as being a great piliar of it) as God in the bright Rayes of his Gospel shall shine upon the harte, and rectify the understandings of the poor deluded people.

The Head of Antichrist is the Pope, and the Turk and as every living Beast must have a soul and a body, so the spirit and soul of Antichrist is the Pope, and the body is the Turk. The Turk is the battle axe and scourge of God (as I have already said) he cometh to execute vengeance upon those

The Head of Antichrist is the pope 298

thoſe who prophane his holy name, and do deſtroy the Nations (as *Cyrus* ſometimes did) who being Gods Inſtrument God in the Prophecy of *Iſaiah* is pleaſ'd to call him his ſervant. The Pope deſtroyeth the Church of God ſpiritually, yea, and corporally too, with hanging, murdering and with burning. And as in the Apoſtles time, the Church had, and kept the victory, ſo it ſhall at this day maintain, and keep the Feild againſt the Hypocriſie, and Idolatry of the Pope, and Turk, and againſt the power of all Enemies whatſoever.

Of Luthers *expounding the Prophecy of the Prophet* Daniel. *Chap.* 11. *concerning* Antichriſt.

AND He ſhall do according to his will, and he ſhall exalt himſelf, and magnify himſelf above every God, and ſhall ſpeak mervailous things againſt the God of Gods, and ſhall proſper till the Indignation be accompliſhed, for what is determined ſhall be done; Neither ſhall he regard the God of his Fathers, nor the deſire of women, nor any God for he ſhall magnify himſelf above All.

This prophecy (ſaith *Luther*) as all Teachers do interpret doth point directly at *Antichriſt*, who neither regardeth God, nor the love of women, that is the ſtate of *Matrimony Antichriſt* ſhall condemn theſe two on Earth, Firſt *God*, that is Religion, and ſecondly woman, he will contemn all the laws of Wedlock, all houſe government, for by women Children are begotten, and brought up to the preſervation of Humane ſociety, and the repleniſhing of the world, therefore when that ſhall be diſregarded, and contemned, then of neceſſity all the conjunction of politicall government which eſtabliſhed in the laws of Matrimony muſt fall with it, nay Kings and Emperours, and all their laws and Ordinances muſt fall to the ground with it.

Da-

Daniel (ſaith *Luther*) was ſo high a Prophet, that Chriſt eſpecially loved him, and of whom he ſaid, who ſo readeth him let him mark; He ſpake ſo clearly of that *Antichriſtian* Horror, as if he had been at that time an Eye witneſſe of it, Read Chapter 11. throughout.

He ſaith in expreſſe words, that *Antichriſt* ſhall plant the Tabernacle of his palace between the Seas upon the glorious Holy Mount, that is to ſay, at *Rome* in *Italy*. The Turk alſo doth rule over the two Seas at *Conſtantinople* but he doth not ſtrengthen nor advance the worſhiping of *Maoſim* neither doth the Turk prohibite matrimony, but offendeth in the contrary by his polygamy, which is by permitting too many mariages to one perſon. Therefore in this text *Daniel* pointeth directly at the Pope who doth accompliſh both with great eagerneſs, and ſecurity. *The Pope directly Antichriſt page 2.*

The prophet ſaith further, He ſhall be forſaken of his Lord which is allready come to paſſe, (ſaith *Luther*), ſince Kings and Princes do leave him; I do adviſe therefore (ſaith *Luther*) that in any caſe we ſhould do it for moſt ſure and certain that the Pope is the true *Antichriſt*.

As concerning the manner of the Religion betwixt the Turk and the Pope there is no great difference, but only in Ceremonies. The Turk obſerveth the Moſaicall, but the Pope the Chriſtian Ceremonies, yet both of them do falſify and ſophiſticate in their Ceremonies; for as the Turk doth force and defile the Moſaical waſhings and bathings even ſo the Pope ſtaineth the right uſe of Baptiſme, and of the Sacrament of the Altar.

In the like manner the *Pope* ſhall be deſtroyed without hands and ſhall die in himſelf, for he began his Kingdome in *Superſtition*, and external ſhinings and the prerended *Authority* of Scripture; This is the ground on which Popery is builded, and through which it is fallen and every day will fall more and more. It is therefore ſpoken in the Prophecy of *Daniel* that he ſhall be broken without hands, and this aymeth directly at the *Pope*, for all other Tyrants and Monarchs do uſe Temporall power, and ſtrength.

But

But why (ſaith *Luther*) doth the Pope name himſelf an Earthly God, as though the true onely, and Almighty God in Heaven were not alſo a God on Earth. Truly (ſaith *Luther*) The Popes Kingdome is a horrible wrath of God, an abomination of deſſolation which ſtandeth in the Holy place, as Chriſt ſpeaking directly of it ſaith, *Whoſo readeth let him underſtand. Mat.* 24.

It muſt indeed be a great wrath of God, that a humane Creature dares preſume (Chriſt being come and revealed in the fleſh) to exalt himſelf in the throne of God, if it had been done amongſt the *Gentiles* before the comming of Chriſt it had not been ſo great a wonder, And although the Prophet *Daniel*, St. *Paul*, and St *Peter*, and Chriſt himſelf have given us warning of this Beaſt, yet we Chriſtians have been ſtill ſo fooliſh, as to adore and worſhip all his Idolatries, and to believe that he is a Lord over the univerſall world under the Name and title of the ſucceſſor of St. *Peter*, when as neither *Peter* nor Chriſt himſelf left any Dominion upon Earth.

To conclude, the Pope is the laſt blaze in the lamp which ere it be long will go out, and be extinguiſhed, He is the laſt Inſtrument of darkneſs, who lighteneth, and thundreth with ſword and Bull, who maketh and maintaineth war through the power and the ſtrength of others. It hath heretofore been, ſaid, The Pope in one finger hath more power then all the princes in *Germany*, but he beginneth now to be no more regarded. *He is powerfull but not in his own ſtrength* (ſaith *Daniel.*) He beginneth every day to loſe his eſtimation which no Emperour with ſword and power had been able to accompliſh; when he is ſtruck with Gods word, the Pope is turned to a puppet. But who is he (ſaid *Luther*) who about thirty years ago durſt ſo much, as to have had ſuch a thought of the Pope, for in thoſe dayes the Pope would have caſt whom he pleaſed headlong into hell, let him fetch himſelf out again, as well as he could.

The pope, ſaith *Luther*) hath done his worſt and although he falleth not all together, yet every day he will decreaſe more and more. He boaſteth in his decretals that he hath power and Authority over all Rule and Government both in Heaven and Earth, and that he is a Lord over all Lords. How dares any humane Creature ſpeak in this manner, ſurely, ſaith *Luther*, neither God nor King can indure it. He muſt undoubtedly fall, His Tyranny hath climbed up too high, he hath preſumed to tread Kings and *Emperors* under his feet, with ſuch powerfull errours God hath ſo blinded the world untill the Indignation be accomplished. *The horrible inſolence of the Pope page* 301.

Any thing is lawfull at *Rome*, In *England* (ſaith *Luther*) was a Cardinall (Cardinall *Woolſy* I beleive) who was the ſon of a Butcher, concerning whom a merry perſon ſaid, God be prayſed we have got ſuch a Cardinall, who when he commeth to be Pope we may eat fleſh freely in lent, and on other forbidden days, for St, Peter being a fiſher he forbade eating of fleſh to the end that he might ſell his fiſh at a higher rate, but this Cardinall being a Butchers ſon will he give us a diſpenſation for fleſh to gain more mony thereby, Pope *Adrian* cauſed two Citeyes to be painted on his table the one was the City in which he was born, the other was the City of *Lovain* where he commenced Maſter of Arts, neer unto the ſide of the City of his Nativity he wrote theſe words, *I have planted*, and cloſe by the other, he wrote theſe words, *I have wattered*; under the two Cityes the *Emperour* was pictured with theſe words, but I gave the bleſſing thereunto; whereupon another wrote underneath, *God did nothing heer*. *page* 305.

And indeed what may be expected from a place where God is not, but ruin, and confuſion, and utter deſolation. The *Pope* is full of hell and damnation, as the promiſes of God are full of mercy; we ought not to doubt (ſaith *Luther*) nor to diſpair of ſuch a ſinner that repenteth, and is ſorry for his ſins and confeſſeth them, and deſireth forgivenes for them, although he fall continually into ſin again; But we muſt have reguard unto this, that if ſuch a one dyeth in his ſin then his caſe is doubtfull, and dangerous, In the yeer *How the Pope doth play with the Church of Chriſt.*

yeere 8539: on the eighth day of *January*, a Comet was ſeen at *Wittenbergh* about ſix of the Clock in the evening; it ſhot its threatning trayn from the *Weſt* to the *North*, and towards the *Eaſt*. The comet was beheld by *Philip Melannthon*, by *Iuſtus Ionas*, and *Martin Luther* and others; Whereupon *Luther* ſaid, I will prophecy over *Germany*, not out of the planets, or this dreadful comet but I will deeare unto her the Anger of God, out of his own word for it is impoſſible that *Germany* ſhould eſcape unpuniſhed, ſhe muſt recive a great ſcourge there is no remedy, for God is daily prouoked to deſtroy her, the Godly with the ungodly muſt be viſited and both of them taſt of the rod. *Germany* is like unto a gallant horſe that is high of mettall, and well fed, but wanteth a good rider, now, as aſtrong and fiery horſe will not obey the bridle but driveth on forward, and beares down all before him, except he hath an expeciened rider to command him, ſo for want of a head and good governour *Germany* will betray her ſelf, and leave her ſelf open to the Incurſions of her Eni nyes the Turks who in formidable numbers will come in like a deluge uPon them to overwhelm them.

Luthers prophecy againſt Germany 522.

And ancient Miniſter who ſupped with *Luther*, ſpake all the time he was at ſupper very much of Rome, whereupon *Luther* demaunded of him how often he had bin there, he anſwrered foure times, and why ſo often ſaid *Luther* he replyed, firſt I ſought a knave there, at my ſecond iourny to Rome I found him, on my third iourney I brought him from thence and in my laſt iourney I carryed him thither again, and placed him behind Saint *Peters* Altar.

We find God rejected the Nation of the Iewes, becauſe they refuſed to hearken to *Moſes*, and the prophets, nor would receive them, inſomuch the ſame was verifyed of them of which the prophet *Iſaiah* ſpeakteh: Chap: 9. The people turneth not unto him that ſmiteth them, neyther doe they ſeek the Lord of hoſts, Therefore the *Lord* will cut off from *Iſrael* head, and tayle, branch and root in one day. Even thus (ſaith *Luther*) they were diperſed accordingly.

accordingly towards the East, towards the West, and the South, All Histories do shew that by God they were expelled, and now do live without Christ and Comfort because they gave so little a regard to the prophecies, and Doctrine of the Prophets, and the Apostles. Even so will it go with Us *Germans* likewise, who now at last are called, and invited to the supper of the All-saving Gospel, because we acknowledge not the time of our Visitation. God of his infinite mercy preserve us from the same, *Amen*.

The Germans for their sins to be dispersed as the Jews page. 535.

Alas I fear the Gospel will too too soon be removed from us *Germans*, for how should peace, and quiet, and Religion be there, where licentiousnes, and prophaneness raineth, and where all are mortall Enemies to the Gospel.

Of the Turkish preparations.

LEt us truly repent (said *Luther*) let us pray, and attend the will of God, for Humane Help and Assistance is too weak. Some years since, the Emperour was well able to resist the Turk, and to make a war upon them, but then he would not, and therefore many good people as sheep in the shambles were lamentably butchered, and slaughtered by the Turks, I fear all things go not right, for our own pride and tyranny will give us over to the Turks and make us subject to them.

The Turks proclamtion this prophecy came to passe this last yeare.

If the Turk shall cause Proclamation to be made that every man shall be free from Taxations and tributes for the space of three years, then the common people with joy will surrender themselves unto him; But when he hath once

gotten them into his clawes he will then make uſe of his tyranny, as his cuſtome is, for he taketh the third ſon from every man; He is always the Father of the third Child. Truly this is a great tyranny which cheifly concerneth the Princes of the Empire themſelves. I ever held the Emperour ſuſpected, he can deeply diſſemble. Let us call upon God the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, let us pray, it is high time.

Sigiſmund the Emperour was in a manner captivated by the Pope and *Papiſts*, they had him in their power, and he was conſtrained to do what they pleaſed, he was compelled by them to put on, and to wear a Deacons coat, and in Chriſt-maſs Holidays to read the Goſpel to the Pope, Inſomuch that every Emperour ſince is a Deacon of the *Romiſh* Church, and the King of the *Romans* is a Sub-deacon, and he is to read the Epiſtle before the *Pope*, ſo that the *Emperour* and the King are both the *Popes* Maſs-ſervants.

This is remarkeable Luthers page: 112

The *Emperour* after he had performed this Ceremony to the Pope had never any good ſucceſs againſt the Turks in *Germany*, the Kingdome of *Bohemia* is fallen which was before a very fair Kingdome.

This is the ſum of *Luthers* Prophecies in relation to the Downfall of the *Pope*, and of the *Empire* of *Germany* I ſhall conclude with his prophecy on himſelf which is in theſe words. Thoſe who in my life do refuſe the kernell of my Doctrine, will after my death be glad to enjoy the ſhell if they can get it. Let every one in time prepare himſelf to reap whiles it is yet harveſt, for as Chriſt ſaith, *He that followeth me ſhall not walk in darkneſs.*

John 8.

Luther was often heard to deplore the ungodly Invocation, or praying unto Saints departed, and ſaid, There were many Reaſons why that Invocation was execreable, and this was one, namely that by that prophane Cuſtome, the Teſtimony of Chriſts Divinity was obſcured to whom alone the writings of the *Prophets* and Apoſtles attribute the Honour

Honor of invocation. Theſe are the Idols which ſharpen the barbarous ſword of the Turk to cut our throats, except in a more ſpeedy and Godly manner theſe things be reformed, for how wicked and how impious are theſe Hymns which are daily ſung in the popes Chappell. *O barbarous Mary thou Mother of Grace, defend us from our Enemyes, and in the hour of Death receive us. And theſe Hymnes, Saint Dorothy create a new Heart within us, and Saint Catherine tranſlate us from the troubleſome ſea of this world to the pleaſure of paradiſe. Open paradiſe for us.*

Invocation of Saints the Idol that whetteth the ſword of the Turk to cut our throats. Melanthon. Tom. 6.

It being brought to *Luthers* eare how much the Goſpell began to flouriſh for all the malice of the Pope and the vain indeavours of the princes to ſuppreſs it, and that the Papiſts, and the *Emperor* himſelf were ſo violent againſt him that they ſought to take away his life, I had rather ſaid *Luther*, dye by the hands of the Pope, and would by no means, (if I could help it) that the Emperour or any of his Counſellors ſhould interpoſe themſelves in putting me to death. I know what miſery befell the Emperour *Sigiſmund*, after the Martyrdom of *John Hus* at *Conſtance*, and that nothing proſpered afterwards with him, how he dyed without Iſſue Male, and how his daughters Son *Ladiſlaus* alſo dyed, and how in one Age he had his Name quite extinguiſhed, and how his Empreſs *Barbara* by name, became a diſhonour to the Royal Throne: That Kings and Princes rage againſt Chriſt or the Anointed of God I eſteem it as a good ſign, and think it much better then if they flattered, for thereupon it comes to paſs that he that dwelleth in Heaven laugheth them to ſcorn, And when our Lord and King laughes, I ſee no reaſon that we ſhould weep before their faces, he laugheth not for his own ſake but for ours, that we truſting in him, and nothing elſe, might laugh at their vain Deſignes, ſo much need is there of Faith, that the Cauſe of Faith may not be looked upon without Faith. It was he who began this work of Refotmation without our Contrivance or our Counſell, and

and he himſelf will advance it and accompliſh it without our Aſſiſtance.

The Prophecy of the learned Muſculus *that* Rome *ſhall be taken by the Turk pag.* 378.

The Pope (ſaith *Luther*) makes uſe of the Maſs even for ſouls departed, He hath gone with his Maſſe not onely into all Corners of the World, but even into purgatory it ſelf. His Indulgence-Mongers are his purſe thraſhers and he winnoweth good mony out of that chaffe, moſt excellent is the ſpeech and prophecy of the Reverend and learned *Muſculus* which, to conclude this Diſcourſe I will exhibite to you in his own words *Magnis Indulgentiis coarceuerunt Infinitos theſauros prætextu fabricarum Eccleſiaſticarum preſertim, ſancti Petri, quæ ſic edificatur* Romæ *ut ad plenum edificata ſit nunquam, citiuſque deſtruenda ſit a Turcis quam ad finem ſtructuræ perducenda a Romanis.*

With great Indulgences they have amaſſed into one Banke infinite ſummes of money under the pretence of the building of Churches eſpecially the Church of Saint *Peter*, which is ſo builded at *Rome*, that it will never be fully finiſhed, and vvill ſooner be deſtroyed by the Turks, then be brought by the *Romans* to the perfection of its ſtructure.

It is obſerveable that the late Arch-biſhop of *Canterbury* who was beheaded on *Tower-Hill*, having heard of the tranſlation of this Book of *Luther* into the *Engliſh tongue*, had a great deſire to ſee it in the manuſcript, and it being ſent unto him, he ſome few dayes afterwards commanded his Chaplin Doctor *Bray* to give the Gentleman a Viſit, and to acquaint him that he had never read a more excellent Divine work which was worthy of eternal Memory; At that time he ſent the Gentleman that tranſlated it ten pound in gold, And about a year afterwards having had the leiſure fully to peruſe the work he returned it back with this

this Approbation, that he would make known unto his Majeſty what an excellent work he had rendred into *Engliſh* and that he would have it printed and diſperſed throughout the whole Kingdome, And in token of his reſpect unto the Gentleman he preſented him at that time with forty pound in gold, by the ſame Chaplain whom before he had ſent unto him. *Luther. Col. loq. ment in the Epiſtle Dedicatory.*

FINIS.